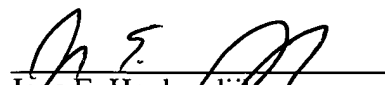


**REMARKS / ARGUMENTS**

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-412-3322.

Respectfully submitted,

December 29, 2003  
Date

  
Jens E. Hoekendijk  
Reg. No. 37,149

HOEKENDIJK AND LYNCH, LLP  
P.O. Box 4787  
Burlingame, CA 94011-4787  
Tel.: 650-871-7676  
Fax: 650-871-7688